

TITLE: HUNGARIAN COMPANY LOOKING FOR PARTNERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

SUBJECT COUNTRY(IES): HUNGARY

POST OF ORIGIN: BUDAPEST

SERIES: INTERNATIONAL MARKET INSIGHT (IMI)

ITA INDUSTRY CODE: ENV

DATE OF REPORT (YYMMDD): 000610

DELETION DATE (YYMMDD): 010610

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APPROVING OFFICER: PAMELA WARD

OFFICER'S TITLE: COMMERCIAL ATTACHE

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2

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Two environmental catastrophes caused massive and long-lasting damage to several river systems in Central Europe this winter. First, there was an accidental discharge of approximately 100,000 cubic meters of wastewater with high cyanide concentration into the river Szamos by a company using metal enrichment technologies to extract non-ferrous metals from the waste rock piles of mines. A few weeks later, a different mining company spilled 20,000 tons of sludge containing heavy metals into the river Viseu. Although, both of these incidents originated in Romania, their effects on the Hungarian ecosystem have been profound as the spills flowed into the Tisza and Danube rivers totally exterminating flora and fauna.

The experts of Hungary, the United Nations Organization, European Union, World Wide Fund for Nature and several countries are currently surveying the damages caused by the pollution and possible restoration efforts.

In conjunction with the on-going work, the Budapest-based CziLab Research Inc. sees a unique opportunity to learn from these disasters and develop information and research that will be helpful in responding to similar events in the future. They are specifically interested in studying the processes by which the rivers, their food chains and their ecosystems recover and become re-inhabited.

CziLab is seeking assistance and partnerships from companies, research institutes, professional associations and universities in developing and conducting cooperative research projects investigating these issues. CziLab is prepared to leverage its local experience and its contacts within the Hungarian scientific and research communities to coordinate and participate in projects to be determined in consultation with interested US partners.

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